

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 were presented for examination, including independent claims 1, 13, and 23. In the 05/10/2004 non-final Office Action, the Examiner objected to the abstract and summary as each containing the same and verbatim language as the other. The Examiner rejected claims 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Imai (US Patent No. 5,978,589). By this response, claims 1, 13, and 23 are amended and claims 30-44 are new so that claims 1-44 now are pending.

I. Amendments to the Specification Summary and Abstract

In the specification, paragraphs [0013], [0018], and [0020] have been amended to include the US patent serial number of the reference noted in the specification. Moreover, paragraphs [0013] and [0020] have been amended to correct minor editorial problems.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b); claims 1-29

The Examiner rejected claims 1-29 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Imai (US Patent No. 5,978,589).

Each of the independent claims 1, 13, and 23, have been amended to include a form of the limitation: *tying together the various servers, devices, and rack locations of the data center through a Local Area Network (LAN) mechanism.* (See Applicants' specification, page 9, lines 12-13)

Imai does not teach the claimed limitation *tying together the various servers, devices, and rack locations of the data center through a Local Area Network (LAN) mechanism.* Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the examiner withdraw the rejection to the claims.

III. New claims 30-44

New claims 30-44 generally relate to a method to automatically soft-configure a rack-mountable computer node as a function of both the attributes for the node component and the


unique rack location of the computer node within a data center. Specification support for the new claims includes the specification information at **page 5**, lines 21-23, and 25, **page 6**, lines 1-2, and 24-25, **page 7**, lines 13-15, **page 8**, lines 31-33, **page 9**, lines 12-15, and lines 28-29, **page 11**, lines 18-20, and **page 13**, lines 26-28.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,

STATTLER, JOHANSEN & ADELI LLP



Vincent Tassinari
Reg. No. 42,179
Phone: (310) 785-0140, x305

Dated: August 31, 2004

Stattler Johansen & Adeli LLP
PO Box 51860
Palo Alto, CA 94303-0728
Phone: (310) 785-0140, x305
Fax: (650) 752-0995
Customer No.: 23329